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Record

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Office of Legislative Liaison

Washington, D. C. 20505

Telephone: 351-6121 2 Mar 84

TO: Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence
House of Representatives

Attn: Dick Giza

Dick:

SOVA analyst [] provided us STAT with the attached material as a follow-up to your conversation with her regarding Soviet forced labor. We hope you will find the statistics and analysis useful.



STAT

FORM 3-79 **1533**

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**SUBJECT : Examination of Evidence on Production
Activities of Soviet Forced Labor**

1. We are transmitting to you a list of items manufactured in the Soviet Union wholly or in part with the help of forced labor. The items in the list are coded according to the U.S. Customs Office Tariff Schedule (TS/USA). These items were classified in this manner to facilitate analysis by US officials dealing with the question of imports by the United States of Soviet goods that might be made by forced labor.

2. The list was compiled from four categories of sources:

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4. Of the approximately 2 million forced laborers in camps, about half are engaged in manufacturing, 30 percent in logging and wood processing, 10 percent in construction, and 10 percent in agriculture and mining. Another 2 million or so forced laborers are not confined in camps. Most members of this group--consisting of people either sentenced directly or paroled to work projects--are in construction.

5. Our list, composed of almost 200 entries, includes manufactured, semi-manufactured, and processed goods. It excludes construction activity by forced labor. The list indicates that much of the manufacturing activity in the camps involves production of parts or components for other products. Logging and wood products, particularly furniture and crate making, are the most frequently mentioned items. Items in the metal and metal products group are also frequently cited. In many cases prisoners cite relatively broad classes of goods without specifying the items within the class.

6. The evidence is too sketchy to permit calculation of what proportion of total Soviet production of the items listed is provided by forced laborers. However, since forced labor constitutes only about 3 percent of the total Soviet labor force and engages in a large variety of production activities, there is some presumption that only in rare instances does production by forced labor comprise a large share of total output of any given product or category.

7. We have very little direct evidence that prison-made goods are exported. The emigres rarely indicate knowledge of the destination of camp-made goods, and when they do, the reference is generally to domestic outlets. The list includes only two reports from former forced laborers that specifically refer to goods produced in camps for export. One cites "agricultural discs exported to West Germany, Canada and 12 other foreign countries, as well as being used domestically." The other discusses turbines produced "for export to Western Europe, African countries and to Cuba." This source also heard that another camp in his area produced a variety of consumer goods "either for Party stores or for Western export."

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8. The evidence in the list is somewhat dated, in part reflecting the reduced flow of emigration from the USSR in recent years. As shown in the table below, 93 percent of the entries in the list refer to production before 1981, 5 percent do not give a date, and only 2 percent refer to production after 1980.

Percentage of Entries in List Referring to
Production in Forced Labor Camps By Time Period^a

Pre 1971	11
1971-75	48
1976-80	34
1981-83	2
Unknown	5

^a Where an entry reported production for an interval of two or more years, the latest year mentioned was used.

Attachment
as stated

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